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10/713,136	11/14/2003	Damian Mark Riddoch	PP-02-1	9552

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EXAMINER

PATEL, MANGLESH M

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2178

DATE MAILED: 09/21/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/713,136

Applicant(s)

RIDDOCH ET AL.

Examiner

Manglesh M. Patel

Art Unit

2178

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on amendment (6/26/2006).
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 6/26/2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This **Non-Final** action is responsive to the amendment filed on 6/26/2006.
2. Claims 1-22 are pending. Claims 1, 19 and 21 are independent claims.

Withdrawn Objections

3. The Objection to the Drawings has been withdrawn in light of the amendment.

Withdrawn Rejections

4. The 35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejections of claims 1-18 with cited reference of Vulpe U.S. Pub 2004/0205540 in view of Cornelia U.S. 6,065,026 has been withdrawn in light of the new grounds of rejections and persuasive arguments.
5. The 35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejections of claims 19-22 with cited reference of Cornelia U.S. 6,065,026 in view of Vulpe U.S. Pub 2004/0205540 has been withdrawn in light of the new grounds of rejections and persuasive arguments.

Drawings

6. The Drawings filed on 6/26/2006 have been approved.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this

Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title; if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 1-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gillig (U.S. 6,993,708, filed Jul 27, 2000).

Regarding Independent claim 1, Gillig discloses a system for managing reference numerals comprising: an element database for receiving and storing a plurality of element names (abstract, fig 2, fig 5, column 1, lines 35-46, wherein the drawing notes include element names); A reference database for receiving and storing a plurality reference numerals, wherein selective reference numerals in the reference database correspond to selective element names in the

element database (abstract, fig 5, numeral 88 & column 8, lines 25-30, wherein the reference number is associated with the element name described in the notes. Although not two different databases are explicitly shown Gillig describes that generation of CADD drawings creates an electronic database that includes the drawing entities. Further each of the Entities are linked to the specification text blocks. Also the reference names and numerals are also linked since fig 5 shows an area that defines the reference number with the element names); A manager system in communication with the element database, the reference database, and at least one document file, the manager system providing for user designated insertion of element names and reference numerals into the document file, wherein changes to an element name in the element database or changes to a reference numeral in the reference database, correspondingly change the element name or reference numeral in the document file (fig 2 & fig 5 & fig 6, wherein the linking software is the manager that communicates with the CADD program which contains the databases for the element names and reference numerals. Further the linking software also communicates with the specification or document file. The linking software includes an interface that asks the user for insertion of the element name and reference numeral that are then assigned to the specification text. Further column 3, lines 3-6, describes that updating the entity in the database causes all of the drawing entities to be updated in the project or specification). Gillig does mention that the CADD creates a database for the drawing entities that include reference numeral and element names. Although Gillig doesn't explicitly show the two databases for the reference name and reference numeral, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have stored reference numerals and element names in different databases to be linked. The motivation for doing so would have been to provide easy maintenance for updating numerical data separately from the names.

Regarding Dependent claim 2, with dependency of claim 1, Gillig discloses wherein the manager system is one of a window, pull down menu, and toolbar accessible at least through a word processing program (fig 5, wherein the manager system includes a window).

Regarding Dependent claim 3, with dependency of claim 1, Gillig discloses a numbering system for automatically creating reference numerals within the reference database, wherein the reference numerals are created based, at least, upon user selected parameters of starting value and interval value (fig 5, wherein the user selects the value for the reference numeral).

Regarding Dependent claim 4, with dependency of claim 1, Gillig discloses wherein the reference numerals are re-

defineable in the numeral database based upon the sequential placement of the reference numeral in the document file (fig 2 & fig 5 & fig 6 & column 1, lines 35-67 & column 2, lines 20-67, wherein the invention allows the user to update the reference numeral data with the notes or element names from the database according to its location in the specification). Gillig does mention that the CADD creates a database for the drawing entities that include reference numeral and element names. Although Gillig doesn't explicitly show the two databases for the reference name and reference numeral, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have stored reference numerals and element names in different databases to be linked. The motivation for doing so would have been to provide easy maintenance for updating numerical data separately from the names.

Regarding Dependent claim 5, with dependency of claim 4, Gillig discloses wherein the reference numerals are re-defineable in the numeral database such that the reference numerals are in assenting order within the document file (fig 2 & fig 5 & fig 6 & column 1, lines 35-67 & column 2, lines 20-67).

Regarding Dependent claim 6, with dependency of claim 1, Gillig discloses that the changes made in the drawing entity are updated in the specification by the linking software or manager (column 3, lines 3-6). Gillig doesn't explicitly describe the use of a hotkey. However at the time of the invention it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to include the use of a hotkey. The motivation for doing so would have been to allow the user to quickly insert the updated values in the document by including a hotkey.

Regarding Dependent claim 7, with dependency of claim 6, Gillig discloses that the changes made in the drawing entity are updated in the specification by the linking software or manager (column 3, lines 3-6). Gillig doesn't explicitly describe the use of a hotkey. However at the time of the invention it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to include the use of a hotkey for inserting both numeral and its element name. The motivation for doing so would have been to allow the user to quickly insert the updated values in the document by including a hotkey.

Regarding Dependent claim 8, with dependency of claim 6, Gillig discloses that the changes made in the drawing entity are updated in the specification by the linking software or manager (column 3, lines 3-6). Gillig doesn't explicitly describe the use of a hotkey. However at the time of the invention it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to include the use of a hotkey for inserting both numeral and its element name. The motivation for doing so would have been to allow the user to quickly insert the updated values in the document by including a hotkey.

Regarding Dependent claim 9, with dependency of claim 6, Gillig discloses that the changes made in the drawing entity are updated in the specification by the linking software or manager (column 3, lines 3-6). Gillig doesn't explicitly describe the use of a hotkey. However at the time of the invention it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to include the use of a hotkey for inserting singular or plurals of the element name. The motivation for doing so would have been to allow the user to quickly insert the updated values in a preferred format within the document by including a hotkey.

Regarding Dependent claim 10, with dependency of claim 6, Gillig discloses that the changes made in the drawing entity are updated in the specification by the linking software or manager (column 3, lines 3-6). Gillig doesn't explicitly describe the use of a hotkey. However at the time of the invention it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to include the use of a hotkey for inserting capitalized or lowercase of the element name. The motivation for doing so would have been to allow the user to quickly insert the updated values in a preferred format within the document by including a hotkey.

Regarding Dependent claim 11, with dependency of claim 1, Gillig discloses wherein the element name and the reference numeral are maintained within a field within the document file (column 2, lines 20-67, wherein the specific specification Text block are associated with the drawing entity that includes the reference numeral and name).

Regarding Dependent claim 12, with dependency of claim 1, Gillig discloses wherein the system manager allows element names to be inserted into document file wherein the corresponding reference numeral are omitted (fig 2 & fig 5 & fig 6 & column 1, lines 35-67 & column 2, lines 20-67, wherein the notes include the element names to update in the specification. Reference numerals don't have to be associated with the names; it is up to the user how to define them with the notes).

Regarding Dependent claim 13, with dependency of claim 1, Gillig discloses that the changes made in the drawing entity are updated in the specification by the linking software or manager (column 3, lines 3-6). Gillig doesn't explicitly describe providing plural names. However at the time of the invention it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to include the use of plurals of the element name. The motivation for doing so would have been to

prevent the user from creating new record by allowing them to select plurals of the element name for insertion into the specification.

Regarding Dependent claim 14, with dependency of claim 1, Gillig discloses wherein the element names and reference numerals are insertable into a drawing file, wherein changes to an element name in the element database or changes to a reference numeral in the reference database, correspondingly change the element name or reference numeral in the drawing file (fig 2 & fig 5 & fig 6, wherein the linking software is the manager that communicates with the CADD program which contains the databases for the element names and reference numerals including the drawing files. The linking software includes an interface that asks the user for insertion of the element name and reference numeral that are then assigned to the drawings. Further column 3, lines 3-6, describes that updating the entity in the database causes all of the drawing entities to be updated). Gillig does mention that the CADD creates a database for the drawing entities that include reference numeral and element names. Although Gillig doesn't explicitly show the two databases for the reference name and reference numeral, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to store reference numerals and element names in different databases to be linked. The motivation for doing so would have been to provide easy maintenance for updating numerical data separately from the names.

Regarding Dependent claim 15, with dependency of claim 14, Gillig discloses wherein the element names are selectively removable from the drawing file by the manager system (fig 2 & fig 5 & fig 6, wherein the linking software include a delete option).

Regarding Dependent claim 16, with dependency of claim 14, Gillig discloses a system for associating messages with the reference numerals and element names within the drawing file for providing instructions relating to placement of the reference numerals and element names within the drawing file (fig 2 & fig 5 & fig 6, wherein the notes provide instructions associated with the element names).

Regarding Dependent claim 17, with dependency of claim 1, Gillig discloses wherein the element database and the reference database are part of a library of element databases and reference databases (column 9, lines 5-30, wherein the database includes a library of drawing entities).

Regarding Dependent claim 18, with dependency of claim 1, Gillig discloses means for inserting at least one of the element names and reference numerals into the document file (fig 2 & fig 5 & fig 6, wherein the linking software is the manager that communicates with the CADD program which contains the databases for the element names and reference numerals. Further the linking software also communicates with the specification or document file. The linking software includes an interface that asks the user for insertion of the element name and reference numeral that are then assigned to the specification text. Further column 3, lines 3-6, describes that updating the entity in the database causes all of the drawing entities to be updated in the project or specification).

Regarding Independent claim 19, Gillig discloses a method in a computer system for managing reference numerals, the method comprising: Inserting fields into a text file, wherein the fields are made of element names from an element database and reference numerals from a reference database, wherein selective element names are associated with selective reference numerals (column 2, lines 20-67, wherein the specific specification Text block are associated with the drawing entity that includes the reference numeral and name); Inserting the fields into a drawing file (fig 2, wherein the drawing file within the CAAD program is updated by the linking software. Therefore the drawing fields are also updated because the fields specify where in the drawing to perform the updating); Revising at least one of the element names and reference numerals within the element database and reference database respectfully, such that changes to the element names in the element database and changes to the reference numerals in the reference database change the fields inserted in the text file and the drawing file (fig 2 & fig 5 & fig 6, wherein the linking software is the manager that communicates with the CADD program which contains the databases for the element names and reference numerals including the drawing files. The linking software includes an interface that asks the user for insertion of the element name and reference numeral that are then assigned to the drawings and in the specification. Further column 3, lines 3-6, describes that updating the entity in the database causes all of the drawing entities to be updated including the entities in the specification). Gillig does mention that the CADD creates a database for the drawing entities that include reference numeral and element names. Although Gillig doesn't explicitly show the two databases for the reference name and reference numeral, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to store reference numerals and element names in different databases to be linked. The motivation for doing so would have been to provide easy maintenance for updating numerical data separately from the names.

Regarding Dependent claim 20, with dependency of claim 19, Gillig discloses wherein the at least one of the element names and reference numerals is revisable through one of a window, pull down menu, and toolbar accessible within a

program by which the text file is created (fig 5, wherein the manager system includes a window that provides revisions).

Regarding Independent claim 21, Gillig discloses a method in a computer system for identifying errors in a document having element names and associated reference numerals, the method comprising: a) identifying a reference numeral within a text document; b) providing for selection of an element name associated with the reference numeral from the text document; c) storing the element name and the associated reference numeral in an element name and reference numeral database, such that the reference numeral and element name are associated ; d) identifying subsequent occurrences of the reference numeral, wherein the subsequent occurrence of the reference numeral and the associated element name are compared with the element name and reference numeral database ; e) indicating the presence of an inconsistency between the reference numeral and element name in the database and the subsequent occurrence of the reference numeral and the element names in the text document ; and f) repeating steps a) through e) for other reference numerals and element names until a determined number of reference numerals are identified (column 2, lines 20-67, wherein the specific specification Text block are associated with the drawing entity that includes the reference numeral and name. The linking software provides selection of an element name from the numeral associated in the specification further allowing the updating of the name. The linking software checks the entire specification ignoring any duplicate items already corrected or updated). Gillig does mention that the CADD creates a database for the drawing entities that include reference numeral and element names. Although Gillig doesn't explicitly show the two databases for the reference name and reference numeral, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have stored reference numerals and element names in different databases to be linked. The motivation for doing so would have been to provide easy maintenance for updating numerical data separately from the names.

Regarding Dependent claim 22, with dependency of claim 21, Gillig discloses means for selecting an element name to associate with an identified reference numeral (abstract, fig 5, numeral 88 & column 8, lines 25-30, wherein the reference number is associated with the element name described in the notes).

It is noted that any citation [[s]] to specific, pages, columns, lines, or figures in the prior art references and any interpretation of the references should not be considered to be limiting in any way. A reference is relevant for all it contains and may be relied upon for all that it would have reasonably suggested to one having ordinary skill in the art.

[[See, MPEP 2123]]

Response to Arguments

9. Applicant's arguments filed 6/26/2006 have been fully considered but are moot in view of the new grounds of rejection

Conclusion

Other Prior Art Cited


10. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.
- Davis et al. (U.S. 7,086,028) discloses "Simplified Generation Of Design Change Information On A Drawing In A Computer Aided Design (CAD) Environment"
 - Schorr et al. (U.S. 7,013,433) discloses "System And Method For Providing A Dynamically Updating Legend"
 - Leonid et al. (U.S. Pub 2002/0077832) discloses "Computer Based Integrated Text/Graphic Document Analysis"
 - Rossberg et al. (U.S. 5,341,469) discloses "Structured Text System"
 - Lin (U.S. Pub 006/0190805) discloses "Graphic-Aided And Audio-Commanded Document Management And Display System"
 - Brindisi (U.S. 2005/0216828) discloses "Patent Annotator"

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Manglesh M. Patel whose telephone number is (571) 272-5937. The examiner can normally be reached on M, W 6 am-3 pm T, TH 6 am-2pm, Fr 9am-6pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen S. Hong can be reached on (571) 272-4124. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Manglesh M. Patel
Patent Examiner
September 13, 2006



CESAR PAULA
PRIMARY EXAMINER